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AFP AT INTERNATIONAL PEACE CONFAB

PIPER ACCEPTS INVITATION TO ATTEND GLOBAL CONFERENCE

DR. MAHATHIR MOHAMAD

Back from his three-week visit to Malaysia as an honored guest of the highly respected former Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, correspondent and author Michael Collins Piper is filing his report this week on the international peace conference for which Piper extended his stay in Kuala Lumpur.

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 Behind the Scenes at the Global Peace Conference ***with Michael Collins Piper***

INTRODUCTION

AMERICAN FREE PRESS correspondent Michael Collins Piper recently returned from a threeweek visit to Malaysia, during which time he was a special guest of Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, the former prime minister of Malaysia, at the second formal session of the Perdana Global Peace Organization.

Chaired by Dr. Mahathir, the peace forum, which was first launched in December 2005, formulated and endorsed the Kuala Lumpur Initiative urging a global campaign to have the conduct of war formally criminalized under international law and to make leaders who perpetrate wars, along with the organizations and businesses that support them, recognized as criminals by international law.

The special June 22, 2006, session of the peace forum focused on the theme: "The Middle East Agenda: Oil, Dollar Hegemony & Islam" and featured a diverse group of distinguished diplomats, scholars and others from around the globe who not only addressed the subject of the ongoing role of the United States and Britain and Israel in the problems of the Middle East — in particular the drive for war against Iran — but also the dangers of nuclear proliferation. The moderator of the forum was Mukhriz Mahathir, coordinator of Peace Malaysia and also the son of Dr. Mahathir.

Last week, in its July 17 and 24 issue, AFP published a transcript of a specially recorded message Dr. Mahathir gave to Michael Collins Piper to pass on to the readers of AFP, urging them to support and publicize the Kuala Lumpur Initiative and the aims of the Perdana peace forum.

In this and subsequent issues of AFP, Piper's summaries of the remarks of the speakers will be published. What follows is Michael Collins Piper's on-the-scene report of comments made by Dr. Mahathir and Francis Boyle to the peace forum.

Inside the Malaysia Conference

By Michael Collins Piper

KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia — "We cannot underestimate the neo-conservatives in the Bush administration," said Dr. Francis Boyle, who was educated at the University of Chicago alongside a number of the key "neo-cons" who are influential in the Bush administration today. They are aiming "for control and domination of the world's economy."

Boyle spoke before the 2006 special forum of the Perdana Global Peace Organization. According to the group's web site, the Perdana Global Peace Organization was established in 2005 "to spearhead the worldwide initiatives of the Perdana Global Peace Forum . . . Led by Malaysia's former Prime Minister Tun Dr. Mahathir Mohamad, and supported by a panel of leading Malaysian and international peace activists, the Perdana Global Peace Forum 2005 culminated in a declaration to criminalize war and to make leaders who perpetrate wars, along with the organizations and businesses that support them, duly recognized as criminals by international law."

Their attitude, Boyle said, is "You do what we tell you to do, or else." Allied with the hard-line Likud elements in Israel, the neo-conservatives have "no problem with attacking Iran and exterminating hundreds of thousands if not millions of Iranians." Israel itself, he said, would be happy to break the taboo — in place since the attack on Hiroshima — of using nuclear weapons.

An attack on Iran would be a war crime, said Boyle, a noted authority on international law. And although the neo-conservatives know such an attack would be a war crime, said Boyle, "they don't care." They see the use of nuclear weapons against Iran as a way of stealing petroleum supplies in Iran and as also doing a favor to Israel by eliminating one of its perceived enemies.

In addition, in the event of an attack on Iran, Boyle said that Israel itself may use the opportunity to wage war against Syria and Lebanon as a chance to move against Hezbollah, the Palestinian force based in Lebanon.

In the meantime, Israel is "starving the Palestinians to death," with the support of the United States, "because the Palestinians had the audacity to select Muslims [in Hamas] as their leaders."

The use of nuclear weapons "is in the plan," and "it's in the public record" and most of the governments of Europe "are in on it," said Boyle. War is not easily localized, he noted, pointing out that after the "local" conflict that erupted after the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand at Sarajevo, World War I erupted and 20 million people died as a consequence.

PROFILE: FRANCIS BOYLE, Ph.D.

Francis Boyle is a scholar in the areas of international law and human rights, is an attorney and political scientist who is a professor of law at the University of Illinois. The author of eight books, including his most recent, Destroying World Order, Boyle has served as legal advisor to the Palestinian delegation to the Middle East peace negotiations from 1991-1992 and is an internationally recognized authority in the arenas of war crimes and genocide, nuclear policy and bio-warfare.

In reality, the policies of the neo-conservatives are hardly different, Boyle said, than traditional U.S. policy. Since the days when the United States waged imperial policies to take control of Hawaii, Cuba, the Philippines and Puerto Rico, for example, "nothing has changed regarding the operational dynamics of American imperial policy." Using the pretexts of "stopping the development of weapons of mass destruction, waging a wear on terrorism and promoting democracy," the United States is, he said bluntly, "trying to steal a hydrocarbon empire from the Muslim states and the people of the Middle East."

In 1967, he said, Israel waged an illegal preventive war and seized land from the Arab states and the United States and Europe came to the support of Israel when the Arabs responded in self-defense. When the Arabs responded with an oil embargo, then-Secretary of State Henry Kissinger declared that "This will never happen again" and the United States assembled its Central Command to "steal, conquer and dominate" the oil and gas of the Persian Gulf and Central Asia.

Boyle asserted that Israel is a "failed state" and acts as a "cat's paw" for the United States and could not even survive without the military and economic aid that the United States provides it.

The first Iraq war in 1991 was, in reality, the first expedition of the Central Command and its so-called Rapid Deployment Force, one of 15 years in the making, "one of unprecedented dimensions." The intent was to divide up Iraq between the warring Kurds, Sunnis and Shiites since, Boyle noted, Iraq was — according to anti-Muslim propagandist Samuel Huntington — the only Arab state with the capacity to challenge the United States and Israel.

The result of the sanctions, which followed the first war, was the death of 1.5 million Iraqis. Former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright said that "the price was worth it." Since 1990 there has been "outright genocide of the Muslim and Christian people of Iraq."

Boyle believes that the United States was complicit in the 9-11 terrorist attacks in the sense that top-level U.S. officials knew the attack was coming and allowed it to happen, wanting a pretext for a long war. He asserted that the United States had long-standing plans for an invasion of Afghanistan in order to grab its oil and natural gas and, after 9-11, "They told whatever lies they had to tell and broke whatever laws they had to break in order to launch the war."

Now, he said, "Iran is going to be the next victim of these outright criminals unless people work to stop it."

A journalist specializing in media critique, Michael Collins Piper is the author of ***Final Judgment***, the controversial "underground bestseller" documenting the collaboration of Israeli intelligence in the assassination of John F. Kennedy. He is also the author of ***The High Priests of War***, ***The New Jerusalem***, ***The Judas Goats***, and ***Dirty Secrets***, all available from America First Books and First Amendment Books. He has lectured on suppressed topics in places as diverse as Malaysia, Japan, Canada, Russia and Abu Dhabi.

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